



TWENTY-NINTH ANNUAL MEETING

OF THE

BETHEL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

SOUTH ALABAMA.

The twenty-ninth Anniversary of this body was held with the Providence Church, Marengo County Ala., October 6th, 1849. Owing to the death of brethren E. ROBERTS and S. NORWOOD, who were appointed to preach the Anniversary Sermon, this Sermon was preached by brother J. Reeves, from Pslams, xxiii, 3.

After a short recess, the delegates assembled in the meeting house, and the Moderator led in devotional exercises.

The Communications from the Churches were read, by brethren E. G. Talbert and R. D. Marshall.

The following were found to be the delegates, statistics, post-offices &c. of the churches.

	CHURCHES,	DELEGATES.	POST-OEFICES								
2.	Pigeon Creek,	W. Hill sr, W. F. German, R. Hill,	Suggsville, Clarke county								
15	Bassett's Creek	No Delegation or letter,	Jackson, "								
TR	Paran	No Delegation or letter,	lackson, "								
DISTRICT	Ebenezer,	I. Roberts, J. Waldrum, J. A. Matthews,	Grovehill. "								
	Ulconush,	T. B. Pace, E. S. Thornton, H. K. Williams,	Coffeeville, "								
RS	Horeb,	J. Daniel, G. D. Megginson, J. Clarke,*	Grovehill, "								
H		J. Kelly, W. Larrimore, N. Bradford,*	Grovehill, "								
ISTRICT. FIRST	Nanafaliah, .	R. D. Marshall, J. Rogers, J. B Williams,	Nanafalia, Marengo co.								
310	Union,	T. Y. Dickson, R. H. Tucker, J. Nichols,	Sweetwater, "								
ST	Elim,	J S. Trawick, A. Hudson, * A. Pope, *	Choctaw Corner, Clarko								
Ä	Newhope,	B. C. Foster, H. Trawick, J. Harrison,*	Choctaw Corner, "								
- 6	Shiloh,	R. Sample, J. Green,* W. M. Burge,	Shiloh, Marengo county								
ECOND	Friendship,	T. Tucker, L. L DE WITT * E. Loftin,	Woodardsville, "								
E	Pisgah,	A. Sale, S. G. Davis, L D. Godbold,	Pinehill, Wilcox county								
S		M. Morgan, G Morgan,* T. Findley,	I meiin,								
13	Linden,	T. Ringgold, B. Ringgold, J. Tucker,*	Linden, Marengo county								
D	Tompkinsville,	J. G. WILLIAMS, J. Cabiness,* B. Harman,*	Tompkinsville, Choctaw								
HIRD	Mt. Pleasant	C. M. BREAKER, C. Williams, F. F. Westbrook,	Jefferson, Marengo co.								
E	Spring Hill, .	N. Smith, W. Walston, J. Daughdrill,	Springhill, "								
F		S Madison, T. Matkins, H. Gilmore,	Springinii,								
E	Uniontown, .	L. L. Fox, S. Woodfin, D. Woodfin,	Uniontown, Perry county								
IST		J. Reeves, A. Holmes, E. G Talbert,	Libertyhill, Dallas co.								
P	Hebron,	J. Duniway,	Uniontown, Perry county								
FOURTH	Bethel,	J. Talbert, J. Jackson, W. F. Perkins,	McKinley, Marengo co.								
UR	Poplar Spring,	R. Hickson, (no letter,)	Prarie Bluff, Wilcox co.								
F	Boiling Spring.	F. C. Lowry.* H. Fluker, J. Edwards,	Cleuding mines								
_	Farewell,	No delegates or letter,	Prairie Bluff, "								

Ordained Ministers in SMALL CAPITALS. *Absent.

STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1849

CHURCHES	STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1849.																																	
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Address of the Ministers belonging to the Association.

ORDAINED.		John Talbert, McKinley, Marengo co. "	
Wm. Hill, Sr., Suggsville,	Clark co	Ala.	F. C. Lowry, " " "
Wm. Hill, Jr. "	66	66	R. Hickson, Prarie Bluff, Wilcox co. "
Wm. Russell, Coffeeville,	66		L. Parks, Cambridge, Dallas county; "
F. F. Harris, "	"	66	Hiram Creighton, Grove Hill, Clark, "
Wm. Dossey, Laurel Hill, N	Iarengo co		W. W. Walker, Jefferson, Marengo, "
T. Tucker, Woodardsville,		66	Jeremiah Reeves, Liberty Hill, Dallas, "
L. L. De Witt, "	66	66	William Ivans, Nanafaliah, Marengo, "
A. Sale, Pine Hill, Wilcox	co.		B. W. Herrin, " " "
J. G. Williams, Nanafalah,			Nathan Thomas, Pine Hill, Wilcox, "
C. M. Breaker, Jefferson,	"	66	Samuel Wright, Grove Hill, Clarke, "
A. A. Connella, Spring Hill], "	66	LICENTIATES.
Edward Baptist, Dayton,	"	66	S. Loftin, Choctaw Corner, Clarke co. "
L. L. Fox, Uniontown, Per	ry county		J. Green, Laurel Hill, Marengo county,"

The delegates then proceeded to ballot for officers, which resulted in the election of Rev. John Talbert Moderator, and brother E. G. Talbert Clerk.

An invitation was extended to ministering brethren present, to sit with us and aid in our deliberations. R. Holman, Corresponding Secretary of the Domestic Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention,—P. Stout, Agent of Southern Baptist Publication Society,—G. B. Davis, Agent of American Indian Mission Association,—A. W. Chambliss, Editor of Alabama Baptist Advocate,—and A. A. Connella, Johnson and Scott, accepted.

The usual opportunity was afforded for the admission of churches into our body. None received.

An order of business was presented by brother C. M. Breaker and adopted.

The following committees were appointed:

On Preaching—T. Pace, J. Rodgers, T. Ringgold, J. Jackson, with the Deacons of this church.

On the State of Religion-J. Reeves, W. Hill, R. Hickson.

On Our Missionary Operations—C. M. Breaker, T. Ringgold, F. F. Westbrook.

On the Missions of the Southern Baptist Convention—N. Smith, J. G. Williams, R. Holman.

On Indian Missions—R. D. Marshall, S. Madison, G. B. Davis, C. Williams.

On the Improvement of the Colored Population—W. Hill, R. Hickson, A. W. Chambliss.

On the Southern Baptist Publication Society—C. M. Breaker, P. Stout, A. A. Connella.

On Finance-W. F. Perkins, J. Waldrum, B. C. Foster.

On the Digest of the Letters-W. Hill, C. Williams, E. Loftin.

On Documents and Requests-N. Smith, L. Godbold, B. Ringgold.

On Nominations-J. Megginson, A. Holmes, R. Sample.

The committee on preaching reported the order of services for the Lord's day, after which the Association adjourned until Monday morning. Prayer by A. A. Connella.

LORD'S DAY, OCTOBER 7, 1849.

At 10 o'clock, brother A. W. Chambliss Ed. A. B. Adv. delivered a discourse from 1 John, 4:10. He was followed by bro. J. Reeves, who preached the annual missionary sermon from 1 Peter, 4:10; after which a collection was taken up amounting to \$49.20.

After a short recess, brother R. Holman preached from Isaiah 32:2; and the services were concluded by brother P. Stout, with singing and prayer. The services of the day were interesting, and we hope profitable.

MONDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 8, 1849.

Met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by brother T. Tucker. Communications from corresponding bodies being called for, the messengers of the Liberty Association, brethren J. E. Scott and J. W. H. Johnson, presented a letter and a package of minutes.

From the Cahawba Association, brother R. Holman, messenger, presented a package of minutes.

From the Bethlehem Association, brother P. Stout, messenger, presented a letter and package of minutes.

The letters were read and the messengers cordially welcomed-The roll was then called, and the constitution and by-laws read. Messengers were then appointed to corresponding associations, as follows:

To the Alabama—A. Holmes, J. Reeves and J. Talbert; brother Reeves to write.

To the Liberty-R. Hickson, J. G. Williams and R. D. Marshall; brother Marshall to write.

To the Bethlehem—E. G. Talbert, J. Talbert, W. Hill sen'r., A. Holmes and G. E. Jones; brother Hill to write.

To the Cahawba-D. Woodfin; B. C. Foster to write.

To the Choctaw-W. Russell; N. Smith to write.

Brother T. Ringgold satisfactorily explained the cause why the Linden church was not represented last year.

Received and read the minutes of the District Meetings, which was referred to the committee on missions.

Having heard nothing from brother Wright as to his labors in recording the minutes of this body in a book, as requested, brother W. Hill sen'r., was appointed to call on brother Wright and get the work, and if it is not finished to complete it.

Heard and adopted the following Reports:-

Report on the State of Religion.

Your committee beg leave to report, that in surveying the state of religion in our Association, we perceive such a state of coldness, barrenness and backwardness in the discharge of Christian duties in some places, as should excite in us humility and prayer for Divine aid; while in other places, there is such manifest tokens of Divine favor given, as should fill us with love and gratitude

to God. Several of our churches have been much revived and enlarged; many sinners have been won to Christ, and added to his church; and we are persuaded that if all our church members would be prompt in filling their seats in conference—faithful in family worship, and diligent in loosing the hands of the ministry, God would so bless their labors that the wilderness would blossom as the rose, and the waste places would be built up.

Resolved, therefore, that the especial notice of the members of our churches

be directed to the three following requirements:

1. Forsake not the assembling of yourselves together.

2. Watch and pray.

3. Thou shalt not muzzle the Ox that treadeth out the corn.

God has greatly blessed the labors bestowed upon the colored people, and many of them have been brought into the church the present year, and many others are enquiring the way to Zion.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JEREMIAH REEVES, Chairman.

Report on the Southern Baptist Publication Society.

The present is emphatically an age of improvement. The enterprise of American character has laid every valuable discovery in the arts and sciences under tribute, and in none have they succeeded better than in the perfection to which they have brought the art of communicating thought to distant points by the agencies of steam, telegraph and the press. The latter is become the principal agent in forming and giving tone to public opinion, forming the moral and religious principles, and in moulding the character of our people.

One cannot contemplate this mighty engine, to infuse good or evil in every class, and in all the ramifications of society—civil, political and religious—without feeling interested in the results. Our people have a thirst for knowledge, they must, they will read; and it hence becomes a matter of grave importance that a right direction be given to this laudable propensity, that the literary taste and the moral sentiments be not vitiated, and especially in childhood and youth. It is a truth, now notorious, that whilst there is much that is pure, chaste and sound in what is called the light literature of the day, there is also a great deal of that class of reading matter which is indelicate, obscene and immoral in its sentiments—but often so disguised by the attractive mechanical dress, and tascinating style of the author, as that the potion containing moral poison, is swallowed by the unsuspecting victim, and the work of destruction done, ere the subject is aware.

It is believed that under God, the Southern Baptist Publication Society will do much to neutralize this deleterious influence, and counteract this great evil, by supplying, as it shall be furnished the means, the people of the Southern States, with a chaste and healthy Moral and Religious literature, embracing such variety of subjects, as to be adapted to the tastes and the wants of all classes; while a permanent object is to supply our church members with a well chosen variety of approved evangelical works, to be aids in cultivating their piety and enkindling and sustaining a devotional spirit, and with such works as treat of the distinctive features of the Baptist denomination, both in rela-

tion to their faith and practice.

An important feature in the enterprise is, its Home Missionary character. It is contemplated that pious Baptist Colporteures, shall bring the publications of the Society to our doors, selling them to those who are able to buy, supply-

ing the poor gratuitously, and especially with Bibles and Testaments, and that whilst they are doing this good work, they shall also converse with the inmates of every family on the important subject of their spiritual interests: and in a word, doing the work of a Home Missionary, preaching the Gospel from house to house, if not from the pulpit. To accomplish this, the aid of its friends is indispensable. It has, thus far, been generally given, when its claims have been understood; but hitherto the Society has been able to do little more than prepare the way. The extent of her operations, under the Providence of God, are to be controlled by our churches and brethren. If the funds furnished be small, her ability to do good must necessarily be contracted. If the Treasury be speedily increased to an extent proportionate to the vast demands of the country upon her, we shall hope soon to see this Society pouring forth her pure streams of consolation, comfort and strength to the churches; and as a powerful auxiliary to the ministry, we shall hope to see many flocking to Zion, with songs of joy, gladenning our hearts, by telling us what the Lord has done for their souls, through this instrumentality. Your Committee close by submitting the following for the action of the body:

Resolved That, this Association approve of the organization and objects of the Southern Baptist Publication Society, and believing it to be happily adapted to meet the wants of our Southern churches and community, commend it

to the confidence and hearty support of our brethren generally.

C. M. BREAKER, Chairman.

Report on Indian Missions.

Your Committee are impressed with this important but long neglected field of labor; and when we take into consideration the situation of the Indian race, their strong claims on us; and when we consider how greatly God has blessed the small efforts that have been made to moralize and christianize them, we are astonished that they should have been thus long neglected by us as a christian denomination.

We learn that the Indian Mission Association, was formed in October 1842, and the first report from that body was received in October 1843. Since that time fifteen or sixteen churches have been constituted, numbering about one thousand communicants. They have at this time, in successful operation, four large schools. With these encouraging facts before us, your Committee beg leave to recommend the tollowing resolutions:—

1. That this Association highly approve, and recommend to the churches composing this body, the favorable patronage of the Indian Mission Association. Also that the Agent, our esteemed and beloved brother, the Rev. G. B. Davis, be encouraged in his work; and we hope that every member of our

churches will take pleasure in contributing to this great cause.

2. That we recommend to the favorable notice and patronage of this body, the Indian Advocate, published at Louisville Kentucky. All of which is respectfully submitted.

R. D. MARSHALL, Chairman.

Annual Report of the Missionary Board.

Beloved Brethren—Owing to the absence of our chairman, we are unable to make as complete a report as we desire. We employed as our missionary the present associational year, brother J. Reeves, who has reported to us quarterly. We have, however, not the means at hand of showing the labors

of our missionary during the first quarter. The three last quarters he has labored 231 days, preached 182 sermons, delivered 77 exhortations, visited 250 families, baptized 50 candidates, and assisted in the ordination of one minister and two deacons; travelled 2484 miles, for which we have settled with him. The amount paid will be seen in the treasurer's report. We have done the best we could, and we hope you will be able to appoint a board who will be able to discharge the important duties thereof, even better than we have done. All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. G. WILLIAMS. R. SAMPLE. T. TUCKER.

On motion, agreed to assemble at the stand, immediately after recess, to hear whatever communications brethren Holman, Stout and Davis, may wish to make in regard to the operation of their several Boards. Took a short recess. Prayer by brother J. G. Williams.

Assembled at the stand to hear the brethren above alluded to—after which the Association resumed business, and heard and adopted the following

Report on Our Missionary Operations.

The preaching of the gospel is the grand instrumentality employed by the Divine Spirit, to disseminate light, and truth, and salvation. Hence, whatever measures the church may adopt to foster and sustain the preaching of God's word, according to the Divine plan, should be hailed with delight by all those who claim to have an interest in the glory of God and the good of souls.

This Association has been for many years successfully engaged in prosecuting Domestic Missionary operations, and at no former period have those operations been more prosperous, or more signally blessed of God, than at the present time, as may be seen by the Report of the Missionary Board for the present year. The committee, therefore, are unanimous in recommending the Association to continue their efforts in this department of Christian enterprise, with all the energy and zeal at command.

In the report of the third district meeting, held in July last, with the Spring Hill church, the committee find the following recommendations, which they respectfully submit to the favorable attention of the Association, viz

1. Resolved, that we recommend to the Board of our Association, and the Association, the propriety of establishing a mission among the colored people of the upper part of the association.

2. The propriety of making suitable arrangements to keep up regular preaching by a suitable man, in Dayton and Demopolis, the most important towns in our bounds.

towns in our bounds.

3. The propriety of employing a suitable agent to go around to the churches and people, within our bounds, and collect from them funds to carry on said missionary operations.

The committee close their report by recommending the adoption of the

following resolution:-

Resolved, that this Association urgently recommend to the churches, of which it is composed, to increase their contributions to the funds of the

Domestic Mission Board, so as to place the means in their hands to prosecute the object of their appointment, with enlarged efficiency.

C. M. BREAKER, Chairman,

Report on Documents and Requests.

Your committee on documents and requests, beg leave to report, that they find nothing in the documents in their possession, claiming the attention of

this body, and they respectfully submit the following resolution;-

That we most earnestly recommend to the members of the churches of the Bethel Association, the patronage of the "Alabama Baptist Advocate," as also the "Missionary Journal," and "The Commission." The two last are published at Richmond, Virginia.

NATHAN SMITH, Chairman.

The Committee on the Mobile Lot, appointed last year, reported, after which the Association adjourned until Tuesday morning.—Brother W. Hill prayed.

TUESDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 9, 1849.

Met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by brother R. Hickson.
Took up the report on the Mobile Lot, which was amended and
adopted.

Report on the Mobile Lot.

Your committee, to whom was referred the matter relative to a certain lot in the City of Mobile, in which this body is interested, beg leave to report, that they have investigated the matter, and find that one Joshua Kennedy and his wife Susan Kennedy, did convey by a quit claim deed, to this Body, a certain lot of ground on Government street, in the City of Mobile, in trust, to three trustees, (all or most of whom are now living,) for the purposes mentioned in the deed; and that the Baptist church in Mobile have no interest in said lot; and that the terms of conveyance preclude this Body from any other use of said lot than to occupy it as a place of worship; said lot is now in the possession of some person unknown to us: but we are informed that an action has been commenced against said occupant by the trustees.

Your committee would suggest the propriety of appointing some suitable person to confer with the trustees, and direct them to commence a suit for the possession of the lot, (if not already done,) or take such other action as may

be deemed expedient to obtain possession of said lot.

L. B. LANE, Chairman.

The following resolution was adopted :--

Resolved, That brethren—be a committee clothed with discretionary powers, to secure possession of said lot, in any way which shall not involve this body in expenses; provided the wishes of the doners be complied with.

On motion, the brethren L. B. Lane, W. Hill, sr., and C. Williams, were appointed a committee under the above resolution. Brother Lane was requested to keep in his possession a copy of the deed given for the lot alluded to.

Report on the Missions of the Southern Baptist Convention.

The Southern Baptist Convention has under its direction, two Boards—one for Foreign, and one for Domestic Missions. The receipts for foreign missions last year, amounted to \$16,927 91: being \$2,576 less than the preceding year, and \$3,889 'ess than the expenditures of the Board. Had there not been a considerable balance in their favor from the previous year, they would have fallen largely in debt. The engagements of the Board are such, that unless more vigorous efforts on the part of the friends of missions are made, they must be much crippled in their operations.

In China they have 12 missionaries, and 8 native assistants. Canton and Shaughai are the positions they occupy. On the coast of Africa they have seven missionaries and six teachers. These are colored men. The most of the stations of the Board are in a prosperous condition, and afford ample encouragement to more industrious labor in this department of our work.

The Domestic Board have employed 57 men, who have occupied 170 stations. More than 1000 souls have professed faith under their ministry—683 of whom they baptized. The receipts during the year were \$12,176 62.—The disbursements for the same period were \$13,889, or 1,712 38 more than the receipts. A balance of \$1,866 in the treasury at the commencement of the year, saved the Board from embarrassing debt.

During the present year, up to this date, the receipts are much less than they were up to the same period last year. To avoid debt they have been compelled to deny many applications, and refuse the reappointment of some former

missionaries.

The field occupied by the Board embraces the Southern or slaveholding States. The destitution and rapid increase of our population, demand a more liberal action on the part of our churches. Not less than one large congregation is daily added to our numbers.

Much the larger portion of this increase is under papal influence, or something that is not more congenial with pure religion, and with our civil institutions. In view of our already alarming destitution, and this rapid increase of ignorance and blind superstition, and our reluctance to spread the gospel at

home, what is to be the result of things!

The providence of God, is bringing the heathen to us, and scattering them every where among us, and one of two things must inevitably follow. We must christianize them, or they will make heathens of us. The sum contributed last year, by Southern Baptists, for Foreign and Domestic Missions, is only \$29,104 53. Our membership is considerably more than 400,000 .-The average contributions for each member does not exceed seven cents, while the Northern Baptists, with less than three-fourths the number, have contricuted about \$125,000 for the same objects, averaging more than 43 cents to each member-and more than six times as much as we have done. This ought not so to be. Let their zeal provoke us to love and good works. God has prospered our churches with additions the past year, in a much greater measure than he has our brethren at the North. A corresponding degree of gratitude and faithful labor should be carefully returned. A contribution of 25 cents from each member, equally divided between Foreign and Domestic Missions, would give to each Board more than \$50,000. In view of these facts and considerations, your committee recommend the following resolutions:

Resolved, that each church be requested to raise a sum equal to a contribution of 25 cents, for each member, male and female, black and white, to be equally divided between the two Boards of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Resolved, that each church appoint its pastor, or some active member, to solicit said contributions.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

NATHAN SMITH, Chairman.

Report on the Improvement of the Colored Population.

The committee beg leave to report, that they have bestowed upon the subject, as much attention as was allowed by their present circumstances. They find it involved in considerable embarrassment, and requiring a large share of prudent and pious zeal. This portion of the community are presented before us in a two-fold character, of immortal beings destined, like ourselves, to an eternal existence of happiness or wo; and yet, as slaves, in the ownership and under the control of other men. In view of the former consideration, our duty is imperative and binding to give them the gospel, at the earliest practicable period; and in view of the latter, our attempts to instruct them should be marked with all wisdom and care. The command of Christ, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature," applies to the blacks, not less than to any other class of men; and, indeed, if we consider their accessibility to us, and that while their labor supplies us mainly with the facilities of sending the gospel to others, and that the legal enactments of our country forbid their learning to read, it must appear that their claims upon our charity are paramount to those of any other portion of the community. Nevertheless; we may not do evil that good may come; we may not employ rash and inconsiderate means to accomplish this end, never so desirable.

We therefore recommend, that a missionary, known to be a prudent and zealous man, be appointed by this body to preach to the colored people; and that he be instructed to seek, as far as may be necessary, the consent of the

owners, and the co-operation of the pastors in so doing.

WILLIAM HILL, Chairman.

Heard and adopted, as presented through brother R. D. Marshall,

The Treasurer's Report.

	tor a recharge
JACOB B. WILLIAMS, IN ACCOUNT	T WITH BETHEL ASSOCIATION.
1849 DR	Williams 530
Oct To belonge on hand as reported last	Aug. 4, Ditto from Sebrun Jones, 100
Association - 262 17	" Ditto Z. Lipscomb per J. Reeves, 23
Man't rec'd of Financial Com.	Sep. 21, Ditto Union ch. pr J.G. Williams 16 55
at New Hope church, 108 65	Total received, 552 92
c Col. Lord's day N. H. church, 38 45	
Nov. 16, Rec'd, by bro. Reeves, from	Am't now in hand H. M. fund, 133 51
S. Smith, 3 00	Ditto pd. J. Reeves, Oct. 8, '49, 84 72
* 29, Rec'd of District Meeting at	-
P. Creek by J. G. Williams, 22 60	48 79
1849 Rec'd of Illcounsh church per	11848 CR.
May 8. J. G. Williams, - 22 35	Nov. 16, Am't pd J.Reeves, missionary, 148 60
" Am't col. Lord's day, Shiloh, 7 55	Dec. 31, Ditto ditto ditto 34 70
" Rec'd of District Meeting at	1849, Ap. 28, Ditto ditto ditto 127 77
Pisgah, per J. Rogers, 33 75	Aug. 7, Ditto ditto ditto 108 33
July 29, Rec'd Dist Meet, Spring Hill	419 40
collection on Lord's day, 18 80	Oct. 8, Ditto ditto ditto 84 72
" Ditto from Tompkinsville, 12 50	\$04 12
" Ditto from Providence, J. G.	90113

FOREIGN	MISSION	FUND.
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political at	TIPLOM # CAMP
1848 DR.	CR.
Oct. 4, Rec'd Finan. Com., N. Hope, 7 75	1848. Am't sent A. A. Connella F. M. 7 75
Ap. 29, '49, Rec'd for the Convention, 12 05	
" Rec'd of Dist. Meet. at Pisgah,	19 80
pr J ogers, for Bible cause, 1 00	13.00
Amount received, - 20 80	
Amount paid out, 19 80	
Amount now in hand for Bible cause, 1 00	
	1
CONTINGE	NT FUND.
1848 DR.	11848 CR.
Oct. 4, To balance on hand as reported	Oct. 4, By amount paid J. G. Williams
last Association, - 1 00	for Bro. Wright, - 8 30
Am't rec'd Financial Committee	" sent A. A. Connella for Min. 64 95
New Hope church, - 1 00	-
	73 25
Reimburse brother Wright, 6 30	
Rec'd from the chs. for minutes, 64 95	
Total received, • 73 25	
Total paid out, - 73 25	All of which is respectfully submitted,
Now in hand	JACOB B. WILLIAMS, Treas'r.
Now in hand, - 00 00	JACOD D. WILLIAMS, Treas I.
	V110 1 2 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11

The following delegates were appointed to the State Convention: John Talbert, C. M. Breaker, C. Williams, E. G. Talbert, D. Woodfin, E. Baptist, N. Smith, R. Hickson, T. Tucker, R. D. Marshall:—W. Hill, alternate; brother Breaker to write.

A collection of fifteen dollars was taken up for the Convention, which was ordered to be appropriated to the benefit of the beneficiaries of Howard College. The Treasurer was also requested to pay over to the Convention, any funds that may be in his hand of the Association fund, for foreign missions or Bible cause.

Proceeded to the appointment of the District Meetings for the ensuing year. The first will be held at Ulconush in December next. The second at Friendship, in March 1850. The third at Providence, in June 1850. The fourth at Concord, in September 1850.

The Financial Committee Reported.

from th	ne Churches	for	Minutes, -	\$66	25			
66				65	75			
46	66	for	Foreign Missions,		50			
66	46	for	Association Fund,	1	00			
th	the collection on Lord's day,							
C	15	60						
	from th	from the Churches "" "" "" the collection	from the Churches for " for " for the collection on 1	" for Home Missions, " for Foreign Missions, " for Association Fund,	from the Churches for Minutes, - \$66 "for Home Missions, 65 "for Foreign Missions, for Association Fund, 1 the collection on Lord's day, - 49			

Making in all, \$197 70 WILLIAM F. PERKINS, Chairman.

Received, amended and adopted,

The Report of the Committee on Nominations.

We recommend the appointment of brethren F. C. Lowery, C. M. Breaker, J. G. Williams, A. A. Connella, L. L. Fox, R. D. Marshall, E. G. Talbert, N. Smith and C. Williams, as members of the Board, and of R. D. Marshall as Treasurer. We furthermore recommend brother J. G. Williams to preach the introductory sermon at the next Association, and brother A. A. Connella alternate; brother E. Baptist to preach the missionary sermon, and brother L. L. Fox alternate.

All of which is submitted,

G. D. MEGGINSON, Chairman.

Heard and adopted the report of the committee appointed to prepare

A Digest of the Letters. FIRST DISTRICT.

PIGEON CREEK CHURCH—Has nothing of importance to communicate; enjoys peace. Has had quite a small addition. Has two ordained ministers. Brother H. Creighton is her pastor.

BASSETT'S CREEK AND PARAN.—There was no communication received

from these churches.

EUENEZER—Speaks of passing through a long wintry season; but of late rejoices that there has been an ingathering into the church. She has recei-

ved 10 by baptism. W. Hill Jr. pastor.

ULCONUSH—Says she has cheering news to communicate. Her house is crowded at every meeting; is in peace. Has two ordained ministers, and has had 31 added to her number by baptism. Has a Sunday School in a flourishing condition in the neighborhood, and a regular prayer meeting at the church. J. G. Williams pastor.

HOREH-Has nothing new. Requests the prayers of the brethren. Has a regular prayer meeting, but says it is but thinly attended. H. Creighton

pastor.

SALEM—Says she has experienced a cold and lingering state; has no pastor. Has had preaching at intervals by brothren Creighton and Reeves. Requests our prayers.

SECOND DISTRICT.

NANAFALIAH CHURCH—Says she passed off a portion of the present year in a lukewarm state; but in August last she had a protracted meeting which lasted nine days, during which time 19 were added, which made her greatly rejoice. Keeps up a regular prayer meeting, which is well attended by the whites, and blacks also. Has two sabbath schools in the vicinity. C. M. Breaker pastor-

Union-Greatly rejoices at the accessions which have lately been made to

her numbers, of 66 by baptism. J. G. Williams pastor.

ELIM—Says she has had a revival since her last address, and several have been added to her by baptism. Has one licentiate. L. L. De Witt pastor.

NEWHOPE—Says she has large and attentive congregations, and have several times during the year had cause of rejoicing, and has been made to sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus. L. L. De Witt pastor.

Shiloh—Complains of coldness, but says she is in tolerable peace. Looks forward with hope, that the Lord will ere long increase her numbers. One ordained minister and one licentiate. L. L. De Witt pastor.

FRIENDSHIP-Has nothing cheering. Has no accession, though she is at

peace. L. L. De Witt pastor.

PISCAH—Complains of a cold, wintry season, though she has generally

lived in peace. A. Sale pastor.

Enon—Has nothing of importance to write; is in union and fellowship; has a regular Sunday School. A Salo pastor.

THIRD DISTRICT.

LINDEN CHURCH—Complains that she is very feeble as a church. She is thankful that her candlestick has not been removed. Desires to hold up a standard for the Redeemer. Hopes the Lord will remember them in mercy, and revive his work amongst them. Craves our aid and our prayers. C. M. Breaker pastor.

Tompkinsville-Regrets her lukewarmness; has had but a small acces-

sion. J. G. Williams pastor.

Mount Pleasant—Professes great satisfaction that peace and harmony prevail with her; says that at her meetings the congregations are large and attentive. C. M. Breaker pastor,

Spring Hill—Has meetings the first and third sabbaths in each month; has preaching and holds church meetings once in every month, for the benefit

of the colored people. A. A. Connella pastor.

PROVIDENCE—Rejoices at the thought of meeting the Association at her own house of worship, and hopes it will be a blessing to the neighborhood. She mourns the loss of her pastor, Rev. Samuel Norwood, who has been removed by death; but though it is her loss, she hopes it is his eternal gain. She desires that the Association would pray that the Lord would direct them in the choice of another pastor.

FOURTH DISTRICT.

Uniontown Church—Says she has been much refreshed by the addition of many precious souls to her membership. Has meetings regularly twice a month, besides prayer meetings every Tuesday evening. Has preaching twice a month to the colored people. L. L. Fox pastor.

Concord—Hopes that all the deliberations of the Association may be conducted in harmony and good feeling; desires to be remembered at a Throne

of Grace. J. Reeves pastor.

Hebron—States that one of her members, during the year, has paid the debt of nature; that he died with a full hope of a joyful resurrection. John Talbert pastor.

POPLAR SPRING.—No communication from this church.

Boiling Spring—Says she has nothing of special interest, but preaching monthly to attentive congregations; and hopes the good seed are being sown which will bring forth to the glory of God. F. C. Lowry pastor.

FAREWELL.-No communication from this church.

WILLIAM HILL, Chairman.

The letters to corresponding Associations were read, approved and signed.

Resolved, That brethren C. M. Breaker, C. Williams and N. Smith, be a

committee appointed to prepare an Obituary notice of the Rev. E. Roberts and the Rev. Samuel Norwood, to be printed with the minutes of this meeting.

OBITUARY,

To drop a tear o'er the urn in which repose the ashes of the pious dead, can never be unwelcome to Him, who wept at the grave of Lazarus; and the recorded eulogy of those who have been distinguished for exemplary and useful lives, is sanctioned by the record,—"Barnabas was a good man and full of the Holy Ghost and faith." Nor is it less grateful to the generous heart to contribute somewhat to perpetuate the memory of good brethren. When, in the providence of God, a good minister of Jesus Christ falls, not only does his happy spirit pass into the heavens, and receives its blessed reward in the mansions of bliss, amid the deep regrets of his immediate personal friends, but the church and the world sustain a

loss, limited only by the measure of his holy and useful life.

It seldom falls to the lot of pious friendship, to perform the melancholy task, of paying the last sad tribute of respect to departed worth, with more painful regret, than the members of the Bethel Association feel, in recording their affectionate remembrance of the lamented death of the Rev. Messrs. E. Roberts and S. Norwood, and in bearing their testimony to the uniform and consistent piety of these highly esteemed brethren. Brother Roberts had but recently identified himself with the missionary Baptists, (having been for several years a much respected and useful minister of the anti-mission party.) During that short period, however, he had greatly endeared himself to those with whom he was more immediately acquainted. At the last meeting of this Association, he was appointed to preach the introductory sermon, at this session; but in less than one month from that time, the master was pleased to release him from his toils on earth and to receive him to his rest in heaven.

Brother Norwood was appointed the alternate of brother R. at the last meeting of this body, and it is a little remarkable that the one should have been taken off only a few weeks after the rising of that session, and the other but a few weeks preceding the commencement of this. The ways of the Lord are unsearchable.

Of brother N. it is sufficient to say that he was truly a good man and full of the

spirit of his Master, and was much beloved by all who knew him.

These brethren are gone to the "better land," the inscription of their praise on earth, is in the hearts of pious friendship, the record of their works of faith, is in the book of life.

Resolved, that this Association deeply sympathize with the bereaved families of the deceased, and hereby offer them their kindest condolence.

Brother R. D. Marshall offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, that the Treasurer elect, be and is hereby authorized to call on our former Treasurer for a settlement, and take charge of all books, documents, funds &c. belonging to this Association.

Brother C. M. Breaker offered the following resolution, which was adopted.

Resolved, that a committee of five be appointed by this Association, to take anto consideration the subject of supporting beneficiaries in Howard College, or of indigent young men preparing for the ministry; and that they be authorized and instructed to take any measures they may deem necessary to interest the churches in this important work; to secure whatever funds they may be able to raise for this object, and to report their doings next year.

The brethren C. M. Breaker, A. A. Connella, T. Ringgold, C.

Williams and J. G. Williams were appointed a committee, in accordance with the above resolution.

Passed a unanimous vote of thanks to the brethren and friends in the vicinity of Providence church, for their kind hospitality in entertaining this body during its present session.

Ordered, that the Clerk superintend the printing and distribution of as many copies of the minutes as the funds in hand will justify, receiving thirty dollars to pay expenses &c., and that the Treasurer be required to pay into his hands the funds sent up for that purpose.

No further business being presented, adjourned to meet on Saturday before the first Lord's day in October 1850, at Bethel

church, Marengo county.

Brother C. M. Breaker prayed.

JOHN TALBERT, Moderator.

E. G. TALBERT, Clerk.

CIRCULAR.

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE BETHEL ASSOCIATION.

Beloved Brethren:—Our last Association appointed a new Board of Missions, consisting of nine members. By referring to the Minutes, you will perceive, that the Association entrusted this Board with some very important matters of business, viz:

- 1. The establishment of a Mission to the Blacks.
- 2. The supplying of two important villages with preaching, and
- 3. The appointment of a Collecting Missionary.

These matters have, this day, been taken into consideration and fully discussed by the Board. They find that the funds in hand will enable them to do very little in either of these missions .-They have, however, determined to evince a willingness to carry out the wishes of the Association, and in pursuance of this determination, they have appointed three of their number to secure, if practicable, places of worship in the villages referred to: explore the field for a missionary to the blacks, and also to look out and confer with men to do our missionary work-to be appointed as soon as the funds are furnished. The Board, you are aware, can do nothing in the work of missions, without the aid of those for whom they act. They are anxious, therefore, to secure the cooperation of every member of the Association, in their efforts to supply the destitute with the gospel. In accordance with the suggestion of the Association on the subject of a Collecting Missionary, the Board have requested their Secretary, brother A. A. Connella, to visit, as far as he may be able, the churches, neighborhoods and individuals, within our bounds-to preach the gospel-present the subject of our missions-and receive the substantial evidence (in donations and subscriptions) of your co-operation with us in our appropriate work. If he should not accept the appointment, we shall endeavor to get some other brother to visit you for the above named purposes. Allow, us, dear brethren, to express the hope that you will give our messenger a cordial welcome, and that you will aid us by both your earnest prayers and your cheerful contributions.

By order of the Board, in session at Spring Hill, Nov. 13, 1849. C. M. BREAKER, President.

A. A. Connella, Secretary.



